(h) were petitions received from astrologers of good standing and renown to supply the copies required by the Government at 8 as. a copy;

(i) what has been done with such petitions;

(j) what stands in the way of the Government in accepting the proposal?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.— (a) 2,000 copies.

(b) About 500 copies. (Actual No. 467 copies.)

(c) The remaining 1,500 copies are sold to the public through a contractor.

(d) Yes; the rate of commission varies according to the offers received from tenderers. A discount of 25 per cent was allowed for the calendars for the current year.

(e) Eight annas a copy.

(f) The total expenditure incurred for the current year's calendar including the pay in full of the astrologers is Rs. 1,183-13-10.

(g) Re. 0-9-6.

(h) Yes; from one Kanippayyur Sankaran Nambudirippad Avl., of Kunnamkulam.

(i) Government did not think that the petitioners' proposal was acceptable and he was informed accordingly.

(j) Government consider that question of finance alone should not weigh with them in the case of a publication of this nature There is some prestige in having a State Calendar and so the proposal is not acceptable.

Establishment of Anchal Offices in rural areas.

219. Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether the order sanctioning the establishment of Anchal Offices in rural areas on the financial responsibilities of the local population is still in force;

(b) if so, why the Anchal Office at Parappur was abolished;

(c) if not, why the Government thought fit to cancel the order?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) Because no guarantee was forthcoming to make good the loss, if any, that might have to be incurred in working the Anchal Office.

(c) This question does not arise in view of the answer to (a).

Akkikavu-Pazhanji Road.

220. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be be pleased to state:—

(a) what was the amount granted by the Government in 1103 for repairing the Akkikavu-Pazhanji road;

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(b) out of which what amount has been actually spent in repairing the road in 1103;

(c) if the whole amount has not been spent, what is the reason for it;

(d) whether the balance of the sanctioned amount will be utilised for the same purpose and if so, when;

(e) whether the repairing of the road is now over and if not, when will it be over?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Rs. 7,500.

(b) The expenditure on the work was Rs. 1,653-5-7 and this was for the collection of materials.

(c) Default on the part of the contractor for the work.

(d) The amount of the estimate is Rs. 6,300. The balance in the estimate is expected to be spent before the end of 1104.

(e) It is expected to be over by the end of 1104.

Lump allotment for irrigation.

221. **Mr. C. Barton Wright.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether the lump allotment for irrigation in the current year's budget is already spent on any original work; if so,

(b) on which irrigation project;

(c) whether regard being had to the great water scarcity of Trichur they mean allowing any large amounts to remedy the grievances of the public of Trichur?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) A proposal for meeting the scarcity of water at Trichur has just been sanctioned by the Government. Vide copy of the D. P. appended (*Appendix I*).

Appointment of the Special Officer.

222. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the work done by the Special Officer Mr. P. Damodara Menon during the month of Chingam, and place on the Table a copy of his diary of work done;

(b) whether he sought permission of the Government to visit Madras, Bombay and some other places; and, if so, for what purpose and what was the nature of the reply given to him?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) The work done by the Special Officer cannot be disclosed as it is of a confidential nature.

(b) There has been no visit to Bombay yet. It was with the permission of the Government that visits were made to such of

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